

Welcome to FunShine Express®!

Your child's teacher/child care provider will be offering a wide range of preschool activities this year through our curriculum program, Fireflies®.

The Fireflies® program consists of monthly kits centered around two themes. Daily activities are offered for your child's teacher to select from as they work to enhance growth and school readiness for early learners. Fireflies® activities are built around eight developmental domains, Social/Emotional, Language/Literacy, Creative Expression, Social Studies, Physical Development/Health, Science, Math, and Approaches to Learning.

Fireflies® is designed to meet early learning standards designated by most states in the United States.



Fireflies® is a professionally designed preschool curriculum program for children ages 3 to 5 years old.

FunShine Express® Program Goals:

- The curriculum will be based on current research and sound educational theories of early childhood learning and development.
- We will provide a wide range of hands-on, interactive materials allowing children to experiment and explore their surroundings.
- The activity and project suggestions provided in our kits are aligned with specific Learning Goals and Objectives.
- The program will encourage involvement of family members in each child's learning.

What Is Developmentally Appropriate Practice?

In simple terms, Developmentally Appropriate Practice means that activities and programs take into account what each child is ready for. Developmentally appropriate for ages 3 - 5 means that children should be offered a range of opportunities to interact with their environment.

What Are the Benefits of Being Developmentally Appropriate?

Practices that take into account the developmental readiness of each child can boost self confidence and independent thinking. Children are also provided opportunities for individual expression, and are able to practice decision-making. This type of environment promotes skills and discipline, inspires creativity, encourages flexibility, and provides for emotional release.

Is Fireflies® Developmentally Appropriate?

The Fireflies® curriculum is designed to be open-ended and flexible. We provide ideas that caregivers can implement to insure appropriateness. To a great extent, each teacher determines how the program is used in their particular setting.

As family members, you can support developmental appropriateness by following the lead of your child's teacher. Be supportive and involved in their efforts! Also, remember that children can accomplish many things without you seeing a specific project each day.



You will receive a monthly Family Newsletter. This includes ideas to build upon the themes and concepts introduced, songs from our 2015-2016 Music and Movement CD (available from FunShine Express®), a recipe, Spanish words, and a few book suggestions. Consider gathering some of the suggested book titles to supplement the program.

Don't forget to shop for educational resources at www.funshineexpress.com.



For up-to-date information, join our FunShine Community.

